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Economic effect of climate change most for India: IPCC

A report by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change report states that India is the most vulnerable nation in terms of crop production and population affected by the sea-level rise in coastal cities. The economic costs of sea-level rise and river flooding for India will also be among the highest in the world. **P9**

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B'luru institute questions MIT on star signals

NIRAD MUDUR @Bengaluru

ASTROPHYSICISTS at Bengaluru-based Raman Research Institute (RRI) have emerged as the first in the world to convincingly refute a four-year-old discovery of the most elusive and faint radio signal from the time of birth of the first stars and galaxies in the very early stages of the universe — a discovery touted as "worthy of two Nobel Prizes". They did this with their sophisticated radio telescope, SARAS-3, developed at RRI's Cosmic Microwave Background Distortion Laboratory.

Astronomers from Arizona State University and Massachusetts Institute of Technology, had announced the detection of the earliest radio signal with a hydrogen signature in February 2018. They claimed to be the first to "peer" into just 180 million years after the Big Bang marked the birth of the 13.8 billion-year-old universe. **P2**

RUSSIA-UKRAINE PEACE TALKS INCONCLUSIVE; ROUBLE TUMBLES; CIVILIAN DEATHS IN KHARKIV ATTACK

UN roasts Putin, Crimea is key

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

AMID cautious optimism for a diplomatic breakthrough, Russian and Ukranian officials sat down across the table for talks on Monday, the fifth day of conflict. The meeting ended with delegates deciding to go back to their countries to consult their leaders before embarking on a second round of talks. The negotiators identified certain points from which the next round of talks will be held.

"The parties have determined the topics where certain decisions were mapped out. In order for these decisions to be implemented as roadmap, the parties are returning for consultations to their capitals," Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy's adviser Mikhaylo Podolyak told reporters after the talks.

While Moscow has not officially specified its agenda for the peace talks, Russian President Vladimir Putin has told his French counterpart Emmanuel Macron that Ukraine's neutrality demilitarisation and recognition of Crimea would be key to ending the ongoing conflict.

Putin came under severe criticism in the emergency special session of the UN General Assembly on Ukraine on Monday. Russian nuclear forces being put on high alert is a 'chilling development' and the mere idea of a nuclear conflict is simply inconceivable, UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres said on Monday. "Enough is enough. Soldiers need to move back to their barracks. Leaders need to move to peace. Civilians must be protected," he said.

Meanwhile, fighting continued on Monday between invading Russian forces and Ukrainian troops. Russia reportedly managed to seize two small cities in southeastern Ukraine and the area around a nuclear power plant. Russia's rocket attack on Kharkiv has left dozens of civilians dead and hundreds more wounded, Ukrainian interior ministry adviser Anton Herashchenko said.

An isolated Russia suffered losses on the economic front as well, with rouble crashing on Monday forcing the Central Bank of Russia to raise its benchmark interest rates to an unprecedented 20% from 9.5% earlier. In a bid to support the rouble, the Russian central bank also ordered companies to sell 80% of their foreign currency revenues. **P10,11**

Vladimir Medinsky, head of the Russian delegation and Davyd Arakhamia, representative of the Ukrainian Parliament attend peace talks in Belarus | AP

PUTIN BANS FOREIGN MONEY TRANSFER

Vladimir Putin has ordered a ban on foreign exchange loans and transfers by Russian residents to outside the country, the Kremlin said on Monday, in retaliation for economic sanctions imposed by the West

STUDENTS RISK LIVES TO GET OUT

Mangaluru: Indian students in war-hit Ukraine are trying to get out of the country on their own as they claim there has been no response from the Indian embassy, except for issuing advisories. **P4**

More airlines join, ministers on evac mission

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ New Delhi

MORE Indian airlines have joined the evacuation exercise to bring back Indians amid the Ukraine crisis. Indigo, Spicejet and AI Express said they will operate flights from Delhi to Budapest and Bucharest.

"We are closely liaising with the government to offer our support for more such evacuations flights. IndiGo will continue to contribute to the country in every possible way," said the airline. Similarly, SpiceJet will operate a special evacuation flight that will fly to Budapest from Delhi and the return fight will operate via Kutaisi, Georgia. It is planning to operate more evacuation flights and is in discussion with concerned authorities, the airline said.

In a meeting on Monday chaired by PM Narendra Modi, India decided to send four Union ministers to Ukraine's neighbouring countries to coordinate evacuation. **P10**

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS
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EXPRESS READ

Three Udupi students barred from exams

Udupi: Three science stream students from the Women's Government PU College in Udupi, who are among those challenging the College Development Committee's decision to not to allow hijab inside classrooms before the Karnataka High Court, were not allowed to take their practical exams on Monday as they insisted on wearing hijab. | **P4**

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GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA

Shri. Basavaraj S. Bommai
Hon'ble Chief Minister

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For more information, please contact your district tourism office.

Sri. Anand Singh, Hon. Minister for Tourism, Environment & Ecology, is inaugurating a tourism event.

Together let us defeat covid-19, get yourself vaccinated as per your turn

It shall be the duty of every citizen of India to protect and improve the natural environment including forests, lakes, rivers and wildlife, and to have compassion for living creatures.

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